From:

Bob LaGarde

To:

'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'

Date:

11/16/01 7:51pm

**Subject:** 

Support for Microsoft Settlement Proposal

In 1996 I founded LaGarde, Incorporated, a Kansas Corporation, engaged in the business of building "Business Applications for the Internet." In launching this venture I entered partnership programs with AT&T, Netscape, Novell, Digex and Microsoft. I was rejected for AT&T's program. I paid \$200.00 for Netscape's program. I was offered the opportunity to pay \$1500.00 for Novell's program. I paid nothing to enter Digex's program and I paid nothing to enter Microsoft's program. Microsoft immediately began furnishing me with developer software, sample code, web site advertising support and many, many other business opportunities. Microsoft has established a very strong track record of helping to build business opportunities for 3rd party companies. Microsoft continued to support our endeavors with free listings on the www.microsoft.com web site; inviations to speak at Microsoft professional events; free booth space at global trade shows; etc. Today I operate a Kansas corporation employing 20 people. We were recognized as an Exporter of the Year candidate by our Kansas Govenor, Bill Graves earlier this year based on the fact that through our overseas sale of StoreFront products we e-commerce enable merchants in over 70 countries around the world. I strongly support the current proposal of the US Attorney General's office to settle this case.

Bob LaGarde
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CC: 'GENERAL(a)ksag.org'